



STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Public Hearing – March 17, 2022
Public Safety and Security Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Joseph Giulietti
Department of Transportation

H.B. 5288 – AN ACT CREATING A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE THE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT REPORT FORM USED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The Department of Transportation (CTDOT) would like to offer the following comments in support of H.B. 5288, An Act Creating a Task Force to Examine the Motor Vehicle Accident Report Form Used by Law Enforcement Officers.

The Motor Vehicle Accident Report Form used by law enforcement officers is a nationally uniform data collection guideline that identifies a minimum set of motor vehicle crash data and elements and their attributes. Without this data collection, there is almost no safety program, initiative, countermeasure, or analysis that can be done.

These forms are updated to follow national standards outlined under the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC). MMUCC is published by the Governors Highway Safety Administration (GHSA) which is a national guideline that represents a minimum set of data elements that are required to describe a motor vehicle crash. States are currently required to adopt the model distracted driving data element in order to qualify for federal distracted driving incentive grants.

In January 2015, Connecticut updated the state's motor vehicle crash reporting system after 2 years of design and deliberation from a paper form to an electronic system. The system was updated through a series of 5 town halls and working groups with law enforcement. This new system is much more than just a simple form known as the Pr-1. Data from this system flows from the software in the officer's cruiser, through CTDOT, the Federal government and to UConn to be analyzed by our transportation safety partners. This data governs decisions on how the CTDOT will spend millions of dollars annually on roadway safety.

A 6th edition of MMUCC will be released in 2023. The State has tentatively decided that the crash system should be updated at that time to meet the new MMUCC requirements. Like in 2015, the state will convene a series of workshops and working groups with law enforcement to determine what data elements need to be collected to meet the national guidelines. As the need for more data driven decisions and solutions to be implemented, the collection of this information is becoming increasingly more critical.

The collection of this information is becoming increasingly more critical due to the need for more data-driven decisions and solutions for safety on our roadways. CTDOT looks forward to working together with the legislature, law enforcement, and other stakeholders in the future on this form and the data needed to make informed safety decisions.

For further information or questions, please contact Anne Kleza (anne.kleza@ct.gov) at the Department of Transportation, (860)594-3015.